

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 097522  
ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 NSF-01 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 PM-05  
EB-08 L-03 TRSE-00 /061 R

DRAFTED BY OES:TSELLIN:EUR/NE:DJDONCHI/JAN  
APPROVED BY OES:RCBREWSTER  
ONR - MR. MCGREGOR  
USCG - CMDR. HEWEL  
NSF - MR. BENNETT  
EUR - MR. VINE  
EUR/NE - MR. FUNSETH

-----039505 152026Z /41

P 152003Z APR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 097522

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: XQ, SV, NO, TGEN

SUBJECT:NANSEN DRIFT STATION PROJECT SHELVED

1. THE US COAST GUARD HAS INITIATED FORMAL ACTION TO  
DECOMMISSION THE ICEBREAKER BURTON ISLAND ON OR ABOUT MAY  
1, 1978 AFTER WHICH IT WILL BE DISPOSED OF AS EXCESS  
PROPERTY.

2. BOTH NSF AND ONR HAVE ADVISED US THAT THEY HAVE BEEN  
UNABLE TO PROVIDE THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT NECESSARY TO ACQUIRE  
THE VESSEL FOLLOWING DECOMMISSIONING. AS A RESULT, THERE  
IS NO POSSIBILITY THAT BURTON ISLAND CAN BE USED AS A PLAT-  
FORM FOR NANSEN DRIFT STATION PROJECT.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 097522

3. ACTIVITIES IN THE ARCTIC WHICH REQUIRE ICEBREAKERS OR  
MOBILE PLATFORMS FOR LONG-DURATION SCIENCE WILL HAVE TO BE  
CONCEIVED AND PLANNED AROUND OTHER VESSELS WHICH WILL BE-  
COME AVAILABLE IN THE FUTURE. CURRENT USCG PLANS ARE THAT  
THE REMAINDER OF THE PRESENT ICEBREAKER FLEET WILL BE RE-  
TAINED IN SERVICE AND UTILIZED FOR NORMAL MISSIONS UNTIL

THE MID-1980'S, WHEN IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT ANOTHER ICE-BREAKER WILL BE DECOMMISSIONED AND REPLACED.

4. SUGGEST THAT THE EMBASSY INFORM THE APPROPRIATE MFA OFFICIALS OF THE ABOVE, NOTING THE DEPARTMENT'S DISAPPOINT-

MENT THAT THE NANSEN DRIFT STATION PROJECT, AS SUCH, IS THEREFORE POSTPONED FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. AT EMBASSY'S DISCRETION, THE DIRECTORS OF THE NORWEGIAN POLAR INSTITUTE AND THE FRIDTJOF NANSEN FOUNDATION MAY ALSO BE INFORMED. EMBASSY MAY ALSO WISH TO ASK THE NORWEGIANS FOR ANY THOUGHTS THEY HAVE ON OTHER POSSIBLE BILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL PROJECTS IN THE REGION AND MEANS TO EFFECT THEM.

5. CONTINGENCY PRESS HANDLING OF THIS SUBJECT SHOULD BE LEFT ENTIRELY TO NORWEGIANS. WE PLAN NO PUBLIC COMMENT. CHRISTOPHER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ICEBREAKERS, NAVAL SHIPS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE097522  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** TSELLIN:EUR/NE:DJDONCHI/JAN  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780163-0043  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780452/aaaabryp.tel  
**Line Count:** 80  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** df0d28ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN OES  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2954711  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NANSEN DRIFT STATION PROJECT SHELVED  
**TAGS:** TGEN, XQ, SV, NO  
**To:** OSLO  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/df0d28ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014